

# November

Magic Lantern Society NEWS 2013



Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects

*A time when there are different meals for everyone!*

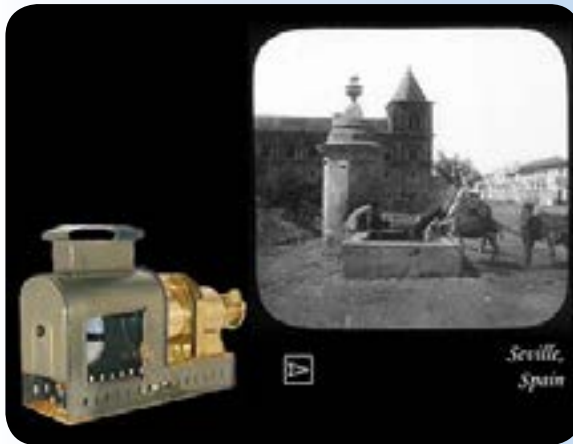
## Virtual Victorians

Welcome to the home of the Virtual Victorians. Here you can take a look at a typical week in our lives and ask us questions.

In the "Themes Gallery" you can see many of the things we use, and some things that we would like to be able to afford to use! You can even play with some of the children's favourite toys!



<http://victorians.swgfl.org.uk/etoys/magic/home.htm>



## Splended Magic Lantern

*made of mahogany and brass,  
Biunial*

### From Ron Easterday

Here you go, you can buy a virtual magic lantern for your virtual reality.

Second Life is an online virtual world developed by Linden Lab. It was launched on June 23, 2003. A number of free client programs, or Viewers, enable Second Life users to interact with each other through avatars (Also called Residents). Residents can explore the world (known as the grid), meet other residents, socialize, participate in individual and group activities, and create and trade virtual property and services with one another. Second Life is intended for people aged 16 and over



General maturity level: Home and Garden » Furniture » Entertainment

Splended Magic Lantern, made of mahogany and brass.  
Biunial. Version 2.3



**Available at  
Second Life  
Marketplace**

<https://marketplace.secondlife.com/p/Splended-Magic-Lantern-made-of-mahogany-and-brass-Biunial/2451201>

The Magic Lantern is one of the most important inventions of our history. For centuries it was a source of pleasure for young and old, for poor and rich. A source of knowledge too for students and scientists. A device with a name sounding mysterious and romantic. The Laterna Magica, the magic lantern.

## The Indian Picture Opera

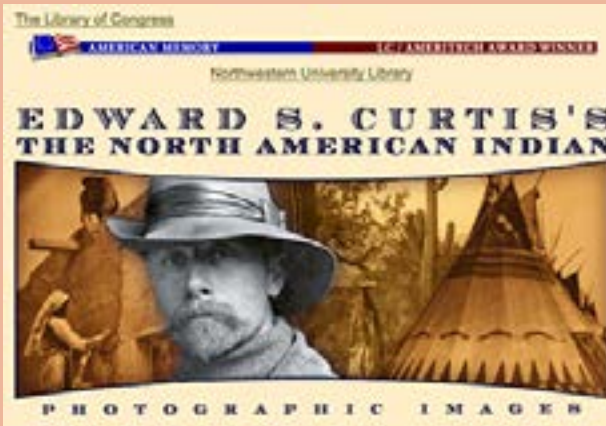
The Indian Picture Opera is a magic lantern slide show by photographer Edward S. Curtis. In the early 1900s, Curtis published the renowned 20-volume book subscription entitled "The North American Indian". He compiled about 2400 photographs with detailed ethnological and language studies of tribes of the American West.

In 1911, in an effort to promote his book sales, Curtis created a traveling Magic Lantern slide show "The Indian Picture Opera".

Stereo-Opticon projectors put Curtis's stunning images on screens in America's largest cities.... one scene dissolving into another. A small orchestra played music derived from Indian chants and rhythms, and Edward Curtis lectured on the intimate stories of tribal life.

This Magic Lantern show played to breathless audiences, stunned by the humanity, fascinated by the imagery, and shamed by the destruction of Indian cultures. The shows received standing ovations, and generous reviews.

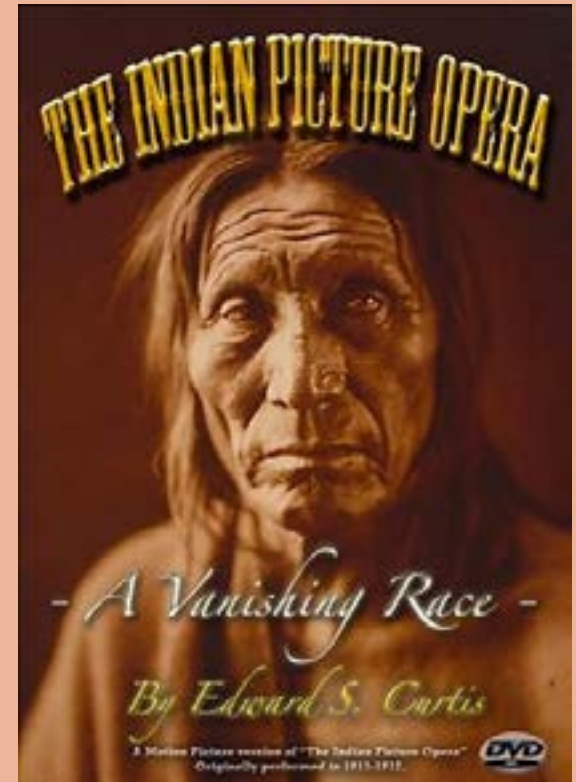
Curtis went on to Produce and Direct "In the Land of the Head Hunters" in 1914. This production was a full length documentary motion picture of aboriginal North Americans.



<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/award98/ienhtml/>



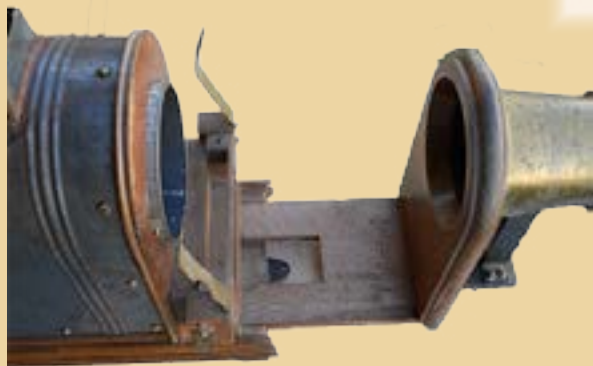
In 2006 there was a contemporary remake of the Picture Opera, published on DVD. Following the original script, images and music were reconstituted into a modern day multi-media production of The Indian Picture Opera.



<http://www.chiefseattle.com/DVDs/ipo.htm>



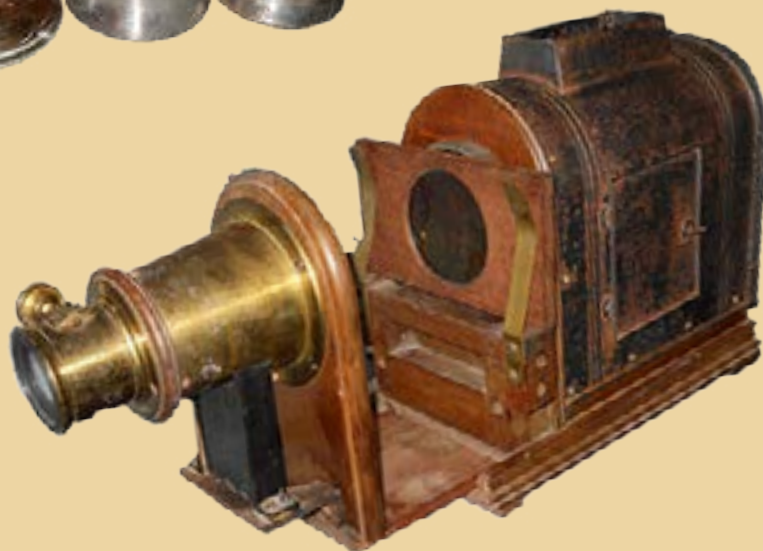
## INQUIRY About A Lantern



I'd like to know some more about this lantern and find out just what is missing from it so I can make it operable.. I know that one of the condenser lenses is missing- the mounting board has a 4.25 hole and the remaining lens is 4 inches. The chimney is missing, and the light source. I think the tinting device in front is an add-on. I have more pictures if anyone needs details.



Eric Stott, Albany NY  
[estott@localnet.com](mailto:estott@localnet.com)



### Response From Ron Easterday

Eric, the lantern you have looks much like one I have that does have an MC Lilley nameplate, with a few variations such as nickel plating, a different door hinge, and slightly different focusing lens housing - just the nose profile. The tine and wood work look exactly the same.

As I, 'm sure you know, Lilley had a large factory that manufactured all sorts of regalia, including fine swords, but I continue to wonder if they manufactured their own lanterns or purchased them and put their name on them for resale.

Here is what I know, perhaps other members can provide more -

Attached are a few photos that might help you identify missing pieces -

Yes, your objective lenses is missing a lenses and outer ring. Mine has flip-up metal stops for the slide each side, at least that is what I think their function is. There should be a base

*continued next page*

## Lantern Inquiry Response Continued

board with two metal pins for the slide to sit on - removable for using vertical slides, such as the ascension of Christ, I think. Bottom metal tab with a hole was for an iron pin to hold the lantern in place on the sloped projection case, with another iron pin to set the adjustable height. Illuminate was likely a 3-wick kerosene similar to the attached photo. I am using a chimney from another Lilley, this one was missing the original chimney, too. The instructions in the box illustrate a different chimney. I have a copy of a Lilley catalog from 1899 that does not have these lanterns, so I assume they predate that. The 1899 catalog boasts that Lilley lanterns are all metal, with no inferior wood parts. The tinting device on mine has a shutter for black-out, red, and green tint glass. The rods have knobs on top that keep the rods from ever dropping below the base of the lantern. I don't see any holes in the top of the lens housing for the rods to project?

Hope that helps, let me know.



### THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE "FALSE SUNRISE"

ERKKI HUHTAMO  
ISSUE 70



Tradecard for The Automatic Stereopticon Advertising Company, Boston, c. 1860s (author's collection).

In Boston a company promised already in the 1860s that its "Automatic Stereopticon Advertiser Works All Night," displaying "your Advertisement to wondering crowds." The trade card displays a large magic lantern placed on a scaffolding in a town square, projecting the company's name and address on a large screen erected on a horse-drawn cart. Although it is night, a large crowd of spectators is present (so the promoter would like us to believe).

- See more at: <http://filter.org.au/category/issue-70/>

*Scroll down to fifth item.*



## Response to INQUIRY About A Unique Collection of Slides



July 6, Tuesday occurred: 1915

### From Douglas Hausknecht, Ph.D.

Dollars to doughnuts, the “Van’s Movie” would have been a production at Chautaugua Institution. There may even be something in the archives there (or they may be interested in getting at least digital images of the slides from Uncle Tom’s Cabin.

<http://www.ciweb.org/our-history/>

Douglas Hausknecht, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of Marketing and  
International Business  
CBA Assessment Officer  
The University of Akron

To: Jonathan Schmitz  
Chautauqua Institution  
Subject: Information about Van’s Movie  
Chautauqua

Jonathan,

I’m a member of the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada. We have a monthly publication which I have attached and on page 6 we have an inquiry about Van’s Movie Chautauqua coming attraction slides. Is there a possibility you have any information on Van’s Movie Chautauqua?

Larry Cederblom

From  
Jon Schmitz  
Archivist and Historian  
Chautauqua Institution

I feel I have seen this before, but I cannot shed any light on it.

Jon Schmitz  
Archivist and Historian  
Chautauqua Institution  
Chautauqua, NY 14722  
716-357-6332  
[jschmitz@ciweb.org](mailto:jschmitz@ciweb.org)

**Boston  
Massachusetts  
July 10-13, 2014**

**Click Here  
for call for  
presentations  
proposal Form!**



## Some Nice Lanterns to Check Out

**object**  
A CURATIONS CREATION

### 12 Magic Lanterns

oobject is looking for writers  
about oobject | advertise on oobject

other curations sites:  
wists cribcandy smashing telly

<http://www.oobject.com/category/12-magic-lanterns/>



## Did You Know About Pose Slides?

**OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY** Digital Scholarship @ The Libraries  
University Libraries Blogs

### New Technology Meets Old

August 30, 2013  
amy murray  
3 Comments  
Blogging

<http://library.osu.edu/blogs/digitalscholarship/category/digital-reformatting/>



“The pose slides are artifacts from a vaudeville entertainment known as the ‘pose plastique,’ an early form of ‘living slide show’ that was very popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These were acts in which performers would strike a pose recreating a famous sculpture or painting. Sometimes the pose plastique



performer(s) would be costumed in and surrounded by white fabric, with only his or her head showing. The performer would strike a pose while a pose slide was projected upon them. The white costume and stage functioned as a blank screen, thus allowing the projected image from the slide to ‘fill in’ the costume and scenery.”



## Prints From Slides

### From Halls

Check out his web site. Interesting!  
Quite the prices. Wonder if it's working  
for him at all?

[magicianterngallery.com](http://magicianterngallery.com)



## Film about the Historical Predecessors of Animated Cartoons

### From Shel Izen

When I moved to the NW in 1975, I took a class at UW on Film history. One film I saw in that class was "The Toy That Grew Up". I have never forgotten that film, and have searched for 18 years, and last night I found it on you tube. Go to link to view: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brqTERgkTEE>. I think this film will be of interest to all of our members, so if you can send it around to them I would greatly appreciate it. I think Ron I asked you and Dorothy about this film when I joined the club. I hope this finds you well. Best, Shel

A great public domain film about the historical predecessors of animated cartoons, with reenactments of the historical devices. Much of this was reused by Walt Disney in Part 1 of "The Story of the Animated Drawing" episode of his Disneyland television show in the 1955.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brqTERgkTEE>





By  
Sarah  
Dellmann

Academic research is often based on the knowledge of collectors and amateurs – this series shares information the other way around. What do academics do with the information after having browsed through your collection? What do they see in the archival material and what does the lantern or lantern practices help them to explain?

Every month, one scholar is interviewed about the role of the magic lantern in his or her research, across the disciplines and across all possible entry points. In this edition, we give the word to Karen Eifler.

If you wish to share your work, contact Sarah (s.dellmann@uu.nl)



## Karen Eifler at the University of Trier, Germany

*Researches the use of the Magic Lantern in  
British Poor Relief*



### **Where do you work and what is the topic of your research?**

I am a research fellow and PhD candidate in the project “Screen1900. The Social Question in Lantern Shows and Early Cinema” at the department for media studies at Trier University, Germany. My PhD project is about lantern entertainments, organized by social organizations in Great Britain between 1890 and 1914. My main research question is: What is the role of lantern entertainments, organized for social purposes, for the public, especially after the introduction of cinema? I am a member of the Magic Lantern Society (UK) and part of the LUCERNA workgroup ([www.slides.uni-trier.de](http://www.slides.uni-trier.de)). I expect to finish my thesis in spring 2014.

### **How do you work?**

Drawing upon a great variety of printed resources, I suggest that lantern entertainments for social purposes played a crucial role in establishing projection media as a whole. Through extensive archival research, I assembled a big corpus of reports on lantern entertainments from the official organs of missionary, educative and Temperance organizations of either religious or socio-political orientation: The War Cry (Salvation Army), The Church Army Gazette (Church Army), The Sunday School Chronicle (Sunday School Union), The Band of Hope Chronicle (Band of Hope Union), The Church of England Temperance Chronicle (Church of England Temperance Society), The Co-operative News (Co-operative Union) and The Clarion (Clarion Movement).

Reports in these journals, annual reports, local newspaper reports and the trade press, prove that lantern shows were immensely popular over time and space. Lantern shows were organized across whole Britain well into the 20th century, also after the introduction of the cinematograph. The years 1906-1908 even mark a peak period of these lantern lectures, and until World War I, according to the reviews, there is no significant drop in their popularity.

This – for me very surprising – result lead me to the conclusion that social organizations

*continued next page*

## Interview of Karen Eifler continued

relied on effective strategies to find, to attract and to (permanently) hold their audiences. I then analyzed distribution strategies and came to the conclusion that the creation of professional lantern departments and itinerant lantern lectures led millions of people to regularly view pictures projected on a screen. Moreover, through the detailed analysis of a smaller number of single reports, I found out that social organizations very much relied on audience-orientated exhibition practices. Via audience participation they achieved collective feelings and built up strong bonds with their audiences.

### How do you approach the lantern in your research?

The actual use of the lantern is central to my research; it allows me to examine lantern lectures within a particularly lively and exciting moment of screen culture – a time when lanternists still considered the cinematograph and the lantern as two different forms of the same apparatus. I approach this fascinating period through the concept “the art of projecting”.

### What do you wish to achieve with you research?

My first aim is to prove that social organizations tremendously contributed to the establishment of the art of projecting in the development of mass media in Britain. Furthermore, I intend to counteract the common place in media history of “the lantern” as a precursor of cinema. In spite of the extensive use and massive scale of distribution of lantern slides for social purposes, media and social historians practically ignore this medium. Even among the few researchers who do work on lantern issues, knowledge about the historic exhibition of lantern slides is still scarce. My study is one of the first to investigate lantern practices beyond the local level and which takes a broader scope (referring to the whole of Britain). Furthermore, as target groups and aims of these social organizations are known, I am able to find out more about another blind spot in media/lantern history: the relation between exhibition practices and audiences. If you would like to know more, check the project’s website: [www.screen1900.uni-trier.de](http://www.screen1900.uni-trier.de) (in German) or send me an email to [eifler@uni-trier.de](mailto:eifler@uni-trier.de).

From Richard Kennedy



I would like to purchase Lantern Slides made by the National Geographic Society in Washington, DC.

Thank you.

• **Richard T. Kennedy**  
18825 6th Avenue Southwest  
Normandy Park, WA 98166-3978

[richard\\_kennedy@ci.des-moines.wa.us](mailto:richard_kennedy@ci.des-moines.wa.us)

As Seen On



From: Brian Rogers

Here's a good ebay buy: [http://www.ebay.com/itm/CHINA-1880-1900-A-VIEW-OF-THE-CHINESE-WALL-RARE-GLASS-SLIDE-3-25x3-25-INCHES-/111188445874?pt=Art\\_Photo\\_Images&hash=item19e3590ab2](http://www.ebay.com/itm/CHINA-1880-1900-A-VIEW-OF-THE-CHINESE-WALL-RARE-GLASS-SLIDE-3-25x3-25-INCHES-/111188445874?pt=Art_Photo_Images&hash=item19e3590ab2)

Only \$7,500 for a rare slide! And he's got more than a dozen more at over \$1000 each! Let's hope he's setting a new floor price for slides!



**If the slide on the left is too pricey there are others for less!**



## Coming Events

### NOVEMBER

**Thursday, Nov. 7, 2 PM**

The Heritage Series will present John Potter and his Magic Lantern Show is at Peoples Retirement Community is at 1720 E. 67th St., Tacoma. (253-474-1741)

**Thursday, Nov 21, 7:30 PM**

Photographic-Collector-Society-Meeting  
Des Moines Masonic Temple  
2208 S. 223rd St.  
Des Moines, WA  
Meeting starts at 7 PM  
Lantern Show and Displays

*Need more information about any of the above events.*

Email  
**LARRY**



### *A Big Thank You to the following:*

**Richard Balzer  
Bob and Sue Hall  
Sarah Dellmann  
Ron Easterday  
Shel Izen  
Brian Rogers  
Kentwood Wells**

*for contributing to this months issue.*

### **Now it's your turn to share!**

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?  
If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

**E-mail Larry**

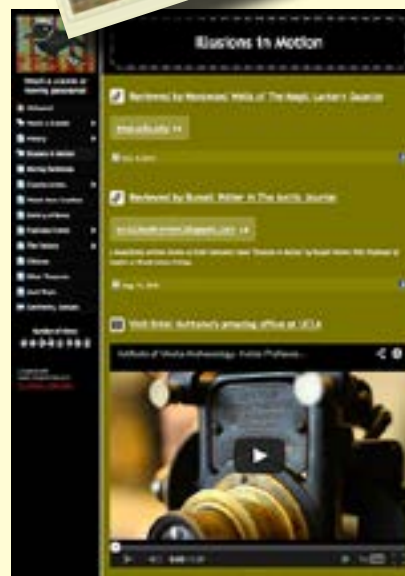
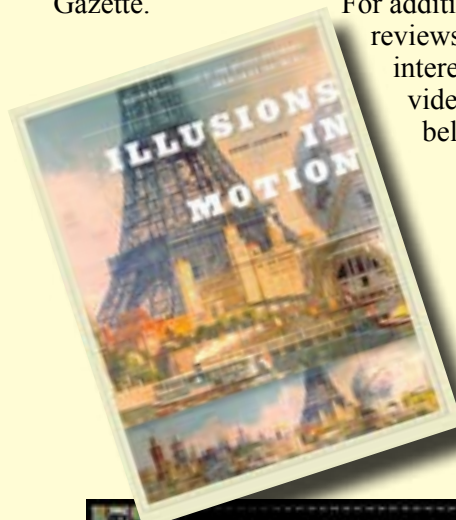


## **More Book Reviews**

### **From Kentwood Wells**

A review of Erkki Huhtamo's new book, *Illusions in Motion*, is featured in the Summer 2013 issue of *The Magic Lantern Gazette*.

For additional reviews and interesting videos, see below:



<http://www.thecrankiefactory.com/115034655/1339365/posting/>

## **Welcome New Members**

### **Haidt, Rebecca**

48 S. Merkle Rd.  
Bexley, OH 43209-1979  
Phone: (614) 292-4958

[r.haidt@gmail.com](mailto:r.haidt@gmail.com)  
Professor of Spanish  
Iberian Studies Working Group  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese  
Ohio State University

## **Corrections/Updates to members listed in the Directory**

### **Johnson, Carol**

Change in contact information

419 Mathews Street  
Fort Collins, CO 80524-2902  
Phone: 703-475-0064  
Email Address:  
[rockdog405@yahoo.com](mailto:rockdog405@yahoo.com)